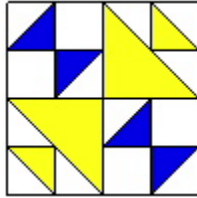


Block of the Month - January 2004

Old Maid's Puzzle



Description:

The 12" Old Maid's Puzzle Block is made from half-square triangles. Portions of this block may be pieced by paper piecing if desired, or pieced by traditional methods. This pattern will discuss using Triangles on a Roll for the half-square triangle blocks and paper-piecing for the portions with the focus fabric in them.

Fabric Requirements for one block:

Color A: Focus Fabric, one strip 13" long by 8" wide

Color B: Background, one strip 8 ½" wide by width of fabric

Color C: Coordinate 1, one strip at least 8 ½" by 4 ½" in size

Cutting:

Background Fabric (Shown in White)	4 - 3 ½" squares 3 - 4 ½" square, cut in half diagonally 1 - 8 ½" by 4 ½" rectangle
Focus Fabric (Shown in Yellow)	1 - 7 ½" squares 1 - 4 ½" square, cut in half diagonally
Coordinate 1	1 - 8 ½" by 4 ½" rectangle

Piecing:

- Using the rectangles of your background fabric and Coordinate 1 piece 4 Half-square triangle blocks. Make sure that they finish at 3 ½" square. **Note:** Fabric allowances given allow for usage of Triangles on a Roll, Thangles or traditional methods of piecing these blocks.
- Take the 3 ½" squares of background fabric and the half-square triangle blocks made in step 1 and sew them together in two 4-patches as shown in the diagram above. Press all seams flat.
- Using the two paper-pieced patterns contained in this drawing to piece the alternate blocks. Use the triangles of your focus fabric and background fabric that you have cut. Be sure to watch the placement of the background fabric when piecing.
- Press the alternate blocks flat and trim to a 6 ½" unfinished size. Remove the paper from your block.

5. Sew the blocks made in step 2 and step 4 together as shown in the diagram at the top of the pattern.

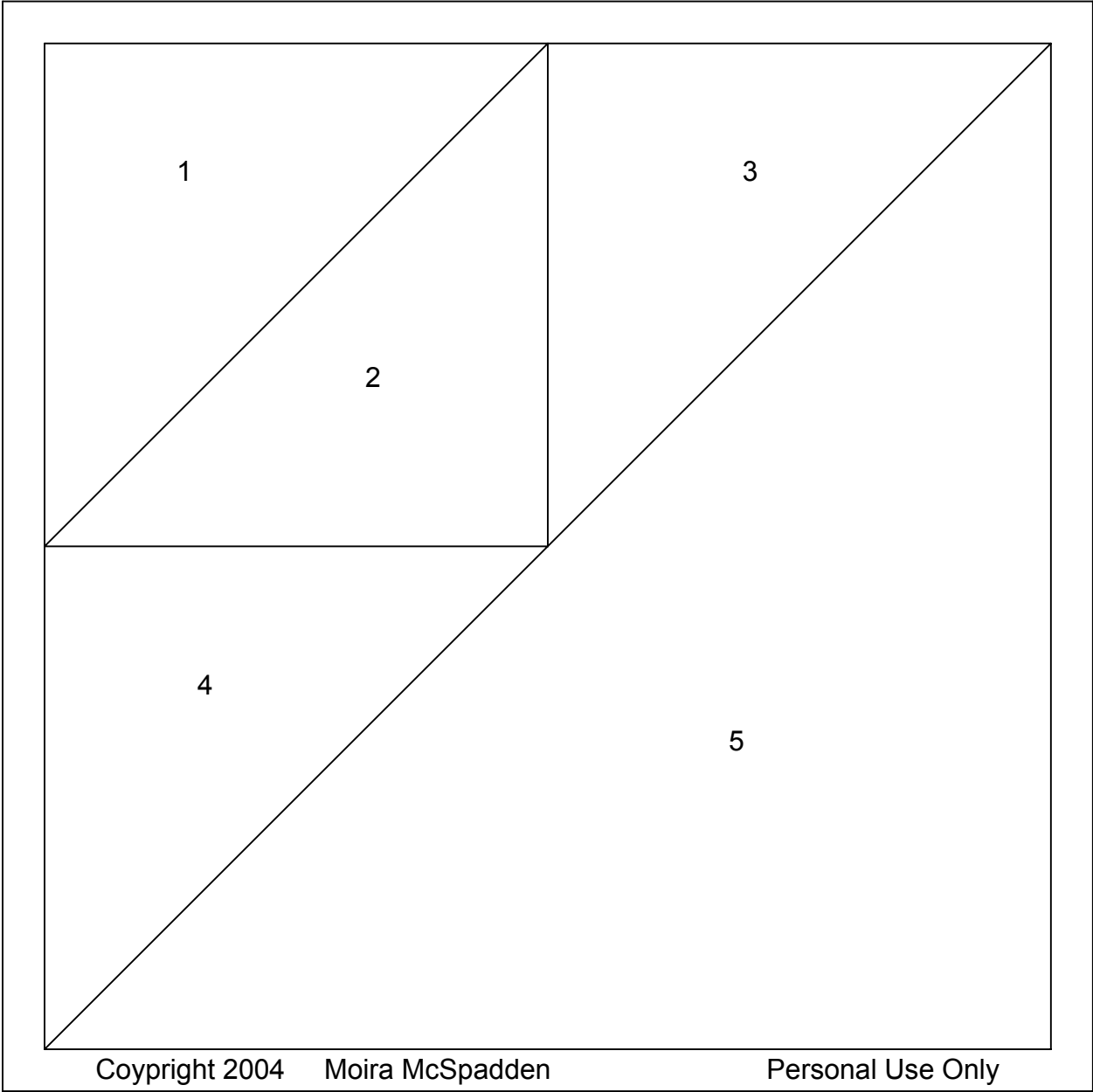
Note: Be sure to use a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance when sewing the squares together.

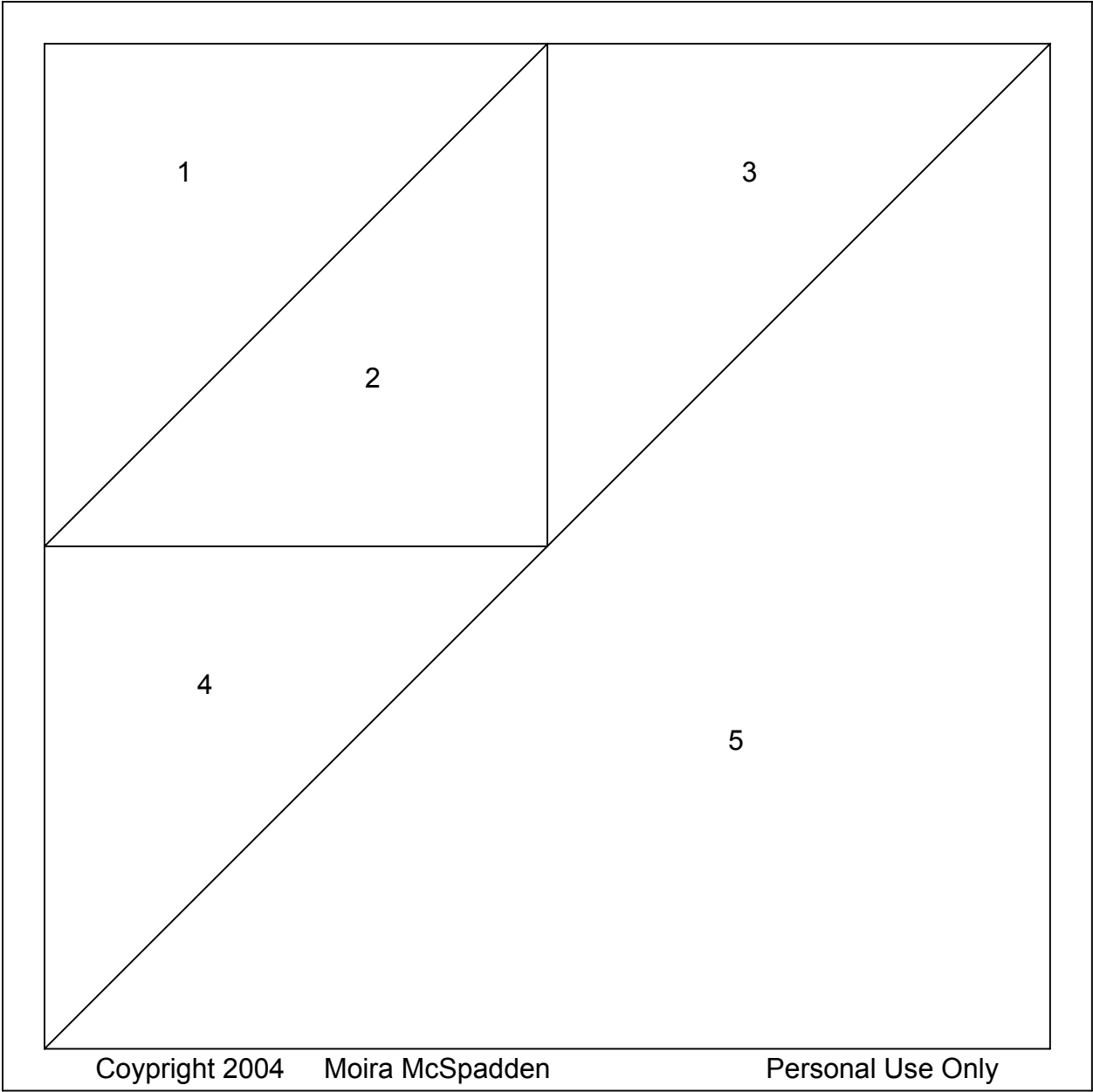
Skills to Learn/Reinforce:

Piecing with a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam.

Paper-piecing

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